# ELECTRIFYING AMERICA'S FUTURE

The **Zero-Emission Homes Act of 2021** provides rebates for the purchase and installation of zero-emission electric appliances and equipment in single family homes and multifamily buildings with additional support for low-and-moderate income (LMI) households. The goal of the bill is to make the economic, environmental, and health benefits of electrification affordable and accessible to all Americans.

### **ACTING ON CLIMATE**

Electrification of household appliances is the key to decarbonizing our economy. American households collectively account for approximately 42% of U.S. energy-related emissions, from heating and cooling to cooking and transportation. To meet our emissions reduction targets, we need to eliminate carbon pollution from Americans' 121 million homes. Clean, electric appliances for space heating, space cooling, water heating, cooking, and other household functions are available now, and, in most instances, they perform as well, if not better, than their fossil-fuel counterparts. Electric appliances also avoid the harmful health effects—such as childhood asthma—increasingly associated with the burning of fossil fuels in homes and often concentrated in communities that have experienced systemic disinvestment.

### **CREATING AMERICAN JOBS & LOWERING ENERGY BILLS**

Electrification also offers enormous economic opportunities. More than 103 million households would save money on their monthly energy bills today if they were using modern electric equipment rather than propane, fuel oil, electric resistance, and other fossil-burning technologies. Manufacturing, installing, and servicing these new electric appliances would also create over one million new jobs with the potential to pay family-sustaining wages, with installation and servicing jobs distributed across America.

### MAKING ELECTRIFICATION EASY & AFFORDABLE

The Zero-Emission Homes Act seeks to make electrification easy and affordable for all Americans so we can all play a role in meeting our climate targets. The legislation defines products and projects associated with household electrification as "qualified electrification projects" or "QEPs." It then establishes a Zero-Emission Homes Program that provides households with rebates for the purchase and installation of QEPs. The federal zero-emission home program would provide up to \$10,000 in immediate price relief for the purchase and installation of select QEPs with additional amounts for low-and-moderate income (LMI) households.

Contractors would be incentivized to install QEPs in homes through bonuses that increase if the home—either single-family or in a multifamily building—is in an underserved community. To reach the communities most in need of support, the legislation defines underserved communities as inclusive of LMI households, Tribal communities, and those primarily composed of racial or ethnic minorities. To further promote uptake, the rebates are transferable to a qualified provider, which could be a contractor, a contractor business, a utility, a government entity, a non-profit, or a commercial entity, including retailers.

### SENATE COSPONSOR ENDORSEMENTS

# Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.)

"This legislation will mean cheaper energy bills for households and reduced emissions — a win for both consumers and for our planet," **said Blumenthal.** "By incentivizing the purchase of clean electric appliances and shifting away from ones that pollute, the Zero Emissions Home Act will create jobs and put us on a smarter, sustainable path for the future."

# Michael Bennet (D-Colo.)

"Climate change is having a dramatic and dangerous effect on Colorado communities," **said Bennet.** "In order to take bold climate action and meet science-based emissions reduction targets, we need to help America's households reduce their carbon pollution while lowering their energy bills. Right now, households account for nearly half of U.S. energy-related emissions. Our legislation makes purchasing and installing electric appliances more affordable to save families money and help tackle climate change."

# Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.)

"Congress has a duty to empower and assist everyday Americans in reducing their carbon footprint," **said Gillibrand.** "Legislation like the Zero-Emission Homes Act of 2021 would help incentivize Americans to utilize zeroemission electric appliances through rebates, and provide the resources to those who may not be able to afford to take these proactive steps otherwise. This is a smart bill that would modernize our economy, lower energy bills, and increase accessibility to electrification for every American household."

# Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.)

"The economic, health, and environmental benefits of electric home appliances are widely known," **said Whitehouse**. "Our Zero-Emission Homes Program would help cover the costs of upgrading to cleaner electric appliances for Rhode Islanders. This is something we can do right now to reduce our carbon footprint and get new, high-functioning appliances into homes."

# Cory Booker (D-N.J.)

"Making electric home appliances more accessible and affordable has the potential to both help families save money and help in the fight against climate change," **said Booker**. "I'm proud to join my colleagues in introducing the Zero-Emission Homes Act, legislation that would help transition households to electric appliances while also creating over a million new jobs and reducing our carbon footprint."

# Ben Ray Luján (D-N.M.)

"Technology to reduce carbon pollution already exists, but too many communities in New Mexico and across the country still face barriers," **said Luján.** "That's why I'm proud to co-sponsor the Zero-Emission Homes Act to make electrification technology more affordable and accessible for businesses and families while creating new, goodpaying jobs."

# Brian Schatz (D-Hawaii)

"Transitioning to electric appliances in our homes is one way we can significantly cut carbon pollution — and create more than a million good-paying jobs in the process," **said Schatz**. "We already have the technology — we just need to make it easier. Our bill is about making sure it's affordable and accessible for every family."

SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS **Electrify Now** LGM Acterra Act Now Coalition Elevate Lumen Energy, Inc. Ajax Strategies **Elmworks** Marin/Sonoma Building American Council for an Energy-Energy Development Consultants, **Electrification Squad** Efficient Economy (ACEEE) Marvland PIRG Appraccel **Environment America MASSPIRG** April Philips Design Works **Environment Arizona** Mazzetti Arcadia **Environment Colorado** Menlo Spark Arizona PIRG Michigan Environmental Council **Environment California** Association for Energy Affordability, **Environment Connecticut** Midwest Building Decarbonization **Environment Florida** Coalition Inc. Mighty Buildings, Inc Barton Bricks LLC **Environment Georgia** MHG Solar **Environment Illinois** Benisol, LLC Birdsmouth Design-Build **Environment Iowa MoPIRG** BlocPower **Environment Maine** National Housing Trust BrightAction **Environment Maryland** Natural Resources Defense Council **Environment Massachusetts** Build Efficiently, LLC Natural Capitalism Solutions **Building Electrification Institute Environment Michigan NCPIRG** Bygblock **Environment Minnesota** New Avenue Homes Caelux Corporation Environment Missouri **NHPIRG** California Interfaith Climate Action **NJPIRG Environment Montana CALPIRG NMPIRG Environment Nevada** Capital Good Fund **Environment New Hampshire** npc Solar Carbon Free Palo Alto **Environment New Jersey** Ohio PIRG Center for American Progress (CAP) **Environment New Mexico** OptiMiser LLC Center for Law and Social Policy **Environment New York OSPIRG** (CLASP) Peninsula Interfaith Climate Action **Environment North Carolina** ChargerHelp! PennEnvironment **Environment Ohio** Chesapeake Climate Action Network **Environment Oregon** PennPIRG Action Fund **Environment Rhode Island** Phius Cinergi Group **Environment Texas PIRGIM** Citizens Utility Board - Illinois **Environment Virginia** PosiGen City of Pittsburgh, PA **Environment Washington** Power Up for Climate Solutions City of Ann Arbor, Michigan **Evergreen Action Primary Productions** ClimateAction.tech FV Life **Progress Noe Valley** Climate Changemakers Florida PIRG Project Green Home Climate Change Resources Frederickson Electric Purpose Venture Group Climate Rail Alliance Fresh Energy Redwood Energy Climate Smart Missoula Fujitsu General America **RENEW Wisconsin** Full Circle Planet Rewiring America ConnPIRG Continental Energy Solutions Georgia PIRG **RIPIRG** Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) **CoPIRG** GeoSolar Technologies Coyote Worx Rolling Ravine Greenvest Covid Act Now Green Work San Carlos Green **Data for Progress Huck Capital** Sierra Club **Idlewild Partners** Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action **David Sullivan Companies** 

Design AVEnues LLC Illinois PIRG Span

**Detroiters Working for** Inclusive Prosperity Capital, Inc. Solar Gain **Environmental Justice** Indivisible Ross Valley Solar Mosaic, Inc.

Donna Graves Public History Innovation Network for Communities Southwest Energy Efficiency Project

DRAWDOWN Bay Area Iowa Environmental Council (SWEEP)

Drawdown NYC Iowa PIRG Sunrun

Dvele Inc Jewish Climate Action Network Sustainable Mill Valley

Earthjustice Jonathan Rose Companies Sustainable San Mateo County

Effective Climate Action Project System Smart Kitchens to Life LaPlaca and Associates LLC **EHDD** Terrament

**TexPIRG** 

The Community Development

Corporation of PHP

The Ecological Development

Foundation, Inc The Enviro Show Thrive Collaborative

Trove

Unitarian Universalist Church of Palo

Alto, Green Sanctuary Unite North Metro Denver Urban Paradise Guild U.S. PIRG

Vector Green Power and Materials,

LLC

Vermont Climate and Health

Alliance

View/Find Evaluation

Voltus, Inc. Vote Solar

Washington Physicians for Social

Responsibility WashPIRG

Wisconsin Environment

Wisconsin Health Professionals for

Climate Action WISPIRG 1Row

21st Century Learning Advisors

350 Chicago

350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley

350 Everett 350 Humboldt 350 Marin 350 Seattle